

through Proposition 204 and the National Fire Plan. There is also a chipper module working with the landowners throughout Placer County to aid in fuels reduction. Placer County funds ½ PY for a Pre-Fire Planner.

In Nevada County, the Fire Safe Council Coordinator position is now being funded by the County, the Forty-Niner Project has been awarded \$860,721.00 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the State Office of Emergency Services; and, a local fire district has undertaken the Alta Sierra Project. The Nevada County Consolidated Fire District (NCCFD) is currently doing inspections and enforcing the requirements of PRC 4290. Along with Nevada County and the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District, NCCFD is providing chipper support to the residents that complete their clearance requirement. Also, CDF and the National Fire Plan have dedicated over \$150,000.00 towards fuels reduction around residences in western Nevada County. The CDF and Nevada County have a contract to provide a Pre-Fire Planner at the county level and the position is considered a great success.

Several miles of shaded fuel break work have already been completed in the Ure Mountain and Oregon Ridge Projects in Yuba County. The recent Pendola and Williams fires have spurred the interests of the residents and brought home the importance of meeting FireSafe standards.

The Unit is constantly re-evaluating our projects and developing a plan of action with the stakeholders of any potential new projects. Each of the above projects is currently being viewed on a three-year timeline as that is what the funding periods are limited to.

## **27 Battalion Level Prevention and Pre-fire Management Programs for the Coming Year**

### ***Battalion 10 ( Dry Creek Area)***

Summary : The Dry Creek Battalion serves a 41 square mile area with a population of approximately 5000 residents. The Battalion is located entirely in the LRA but has significant wild land fire potential. We will continue our high profile prevention program within the Battalion.

#### **FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

##### **Burn Permit Administration**

Issuing points for Le 62's will be CDF/Placer County Fire Station 100. The local pollution control district determines burn hours. Pre-inspections will be provided on a requested or as needed basis. With each permit written, a Placer County Air Pollution Control District's Residential Open Burning informational sheet will be included. A copy of the permit will be filed at Station 100.

##### **Defensible Space**

The Battalion 10 goal will be to target areas within the Battalion that have a significant wildland fire threat and inspect 100 homes using the PRC 4291 program,

although all areas within the Battalion are LRA. Station 100 personnel will concentrate on the Central Ave., Vineyard Rd. PFE Rd. and Walerga Rd. South Brewer Road from West Sunset to Baseline. A five-year cycle through the significant wildland fire threat area will provide education and prevention information to the affected homeowners.

#### **Power line Inspections**

Inspection of power lines will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections. Staff will advise the battalion chief of a violation, the battalion chief will coordinate an inspection by the Units Fire Prevention Bureau.

#### **Fire Safe Programs**

The Placer County Fire Planner will continue to provide building plan fire and life safety reviews for PRC 4290 and uniform fire code regulations.

#### **Public Education**

**School programs-** Station 100 staff provides fire safe presentations to schools within the battalion. Age specific fire prevention material will be handed out at each presentation.

**Parades-** The engine company staff will display the engine so members of the public can inspect the engine and equipment. Staff will hand out fire prevention material and discuss fire prevention issues **Business fire safety programs-** Station 100 staff will provide instruction on the proper use of fire extinguishers to local businesses within the battalion.

**Fire Prevention Signs-** Station 100 request's 3 fire prevention signs, which will be placed in target areas during the fire season. **Station 100 Message board-** timely messages will continue to be placed on the message board.

**Community BBQ and Pan Cake Breakfast-** staff will assist as needed and provide Fire Prevention material and advice.

**Placer County Fair Roseville-** assistance will be provided to the Fire Prevention Bureau to staff a Fire Prevention booth.

#### **Fire Cause Reduction**

The Battalion chief will seek assistance from the Fire Prevention Bureau to provide preliminary fire investigation training to assure accurate fire cause investigations.

Battalion 10 had several equipment fires caused by one landowner while harvesting hay.

Inspections of the landowners harvesting equipment by Station personnel will be performed prior to June 30.

## ***Battalion 11***

### ***( Auburn & Foresthill Area)***

Battalion 11 will work to reduce fire ignitions and reduce damage by fire occurrences by actively participating in public education programs, fuel reduction programs, and homeowner education programs. These efforts will center in the communities of Auburn, Foresthill, Newcastle, and Christian Valley. The components to meet these goals are as follows:

1. 4291 Inspection Program: (400 hrs) Support grant funded inspectors conducting residential inspections for compliance for PRC 4291. Inspections will occur in the general Auburn and the general Newcastle and Loomis area. Include information on reducing equipment use and debris fire ignitions.
2. Pre-Fire Chipper Program: (200 hrs) Support local residents through the local Fire Safe Council in maintaining residential properties free from flammable vegetation.
3. Stagecoach Road: (1 day). Continued maintenance of the existing fire access road beneath the City of Auburn.
4. North Fork - Drivers Flat to Long Point Fuel Break: (2 days) Extend the new fuel break along the North Fork of the American River.
5. McKeon - Ponderosa Fuel Break: (2 days) Improve and continue to maintain existing fuel break.
6. Lower Lake Clementine River access road maintenance: (2 days) Improve and continue to maintain deteriorating fuel break.
7. Auburn - Robie Point Fuel Break: (2 days) Improve existing fuel break below the City of Auburn.
8. Lower Lake Clementine Ridgeline Fuel Break: (10 days) Re-institute fuel break on the upper ridge of Lake Clementine.
9. Engine Company 4291 Inspections: (30 hours) Conduct inspections for residential compliance for PRC 4291.
10. State Park Control Burn - Foresthill Bridge: (3 days) Maintain fire control lines and conduct control burn, as conditions allow, below the Foresthill Bridge, prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. This area constantly suffers from arson fires as burning debris and fireworks are thrown from the bridge.
11. Programs: (9 days)
  - Meadow Vista Pioneer Day Parade: Enter 1 CDF engine in the parade.
  - Fourth of July Parades - Foresthill and Auburn: Participate in both parade celebrations.
  - Auburn Air fest: Attend and put on a static display during the Air Fest.
  - Gold Country Fair: Construct and staff the fair booth display.
  - Fire Prevention week open house: Conduct open house tours of the CDF / Placer County Fire Facility, Auburn Headquarters.
  - Fireworks Patrols: With use of engines, paid staff, and VIP's conduct high visibility neighborhood patrols.
12. Burn Permit Administration: (Various) Headquarter staff, station staff, and VIP staff will administer dooryard burn permits to the public.
13. Initiate a VMP project extending the federal Auburn fuelbreak

#### **CONCLUSION:**

The Auburn-Foresthill Battalion continues to maintain excellent working relationships with various community fire agencies, public service groups and Fire Safe Councils. The cooperative

effort of all entities is maximized in efficiently educating the public on how to protect themselves and their property from the ravages of fire. The continued relationship with fire agencies assures a rapid and efficient response to fire threats in the communities.

## ***Battalion 12***

### ***( Nevada City & Higgins Area)***

Battalion Summary : Battalion 12 covers approximately 185,000 acres of Nevada County. It is occupied by an estimated 71,000 people living in roughly 24,000 residential structures. Fuel types range from oak woodland to timber, and the topography ranges from rolling hills to mountains. The battalion has a significant urban interface problem.

Because of the significant urban intermix problem, much of the fire prevention effort has been spent on reducing the potential for large damaging fires. This has been accomplished through the efforts of a seasonal fire prevention inspector who last year conducted PRC 4291 inspections on 2,772 residents within the battalion, along with a schedule 'A' Fire Protection Planner whose focus has been placed on land use review, concentrating on fuel modification, adequate access and egress and water storage for fire protection. CDF has also been instrumental in the newly developed Nevada County Fire Plan addressing the need for hazardous fuel Modification, CDF is also involved with the Nevada County Fire Safe Council that oversees the Nevada County chipping program.

Battalion Goals: Reduce the number of fire starts through public education and to reduce the potential of a large fire through vegetation management.

#### **1. Public Education:**

Public education continues to be a priority within Battalion 12 to reduce the number of fire starts. The action plan for public contact and education is as follows:

##### **A. Burn Permit Administration** CDF-500 hrs. VIP-1200 hrs. FPD150 hrs

Twenty-Five of the total fire incidents in the battalion were either escape debris or illegal fires resulting in 19% of the total incidents. Indicating there is a better need to educate the public on proper debris burning methods.

CDF LE-62s (Dooryard Burn Permits) will be issued by cooperators consistent with past practice. Issuing points will be CDF Stations 20 and 21, Nevada County Consolidated FPD, Peardale/Chicago Park FPD Stations , Higgins FPD Stations and Ophir Hill FPD. Only those personnel trained and authorized by the CDF Battalion Chief will be allowed to issue the LE 62s. The emphasis will be a placed on the terms of the permit, the responsibilities of the permit holder, and alternative methods of vegetation disposal.

LE-5's and Project permits on SRA will be issued after an inspection by an authorized employee of CDF.

## **B. Public Education Events**

CDF-300 hrs. NCFSC-600 hrs. Local Govt.-200 hrs. VIP-100 hrs

The CDF staff in the battalion is involved in numerous public education programs. Many of the programs are a cooperative effort with other agencies. The public education program includes:

- school programs, career days/health fairs, youth group tours, home and garden shows,
- homeowner/community groups, fire safe work shops, fire prevention week and the Nevada
- County Fair.

On going events through out the year:

- Fire Safe Council & Community Groups – A representative from CDF will attend as needed, an engine company may be needed for demonstration.
- School Programs – CDF & Fire District personnel, VIP's.
- Career Days (Bear River & Nevada Union High Schools) – CDF & Fire District personnel.
- Home & Garden Shows – CDF representative will attend and assist the Fire Safe Council as needed.
- Fire Safe Work Shops / Fire Prevention Week – CDF & Fire District personnel with engine for display and demonstration.
- Lake Vera Camp Grounds – CDF & Nevada County Consolidated personnel will meet with each camp administrator prior to the beginning of their season (usually May).
- Air Fest- CDF & Fire District with engines for parade and display (July)
- Nevada County Fair – CDF personnel & VIP's will staff the booth daily. CDF will have engines and crews for display & demonstration (August)
- Higgins FPD Open House – CDF & District personnel and equipment (May)Vegetation Management / Defensible Space

## **C. Fire Prevention/News Releases:**

CDF will continue to utilize a local radio station, the local news paper, as well as the LOP & Alta Sierra monthly publications and the Nevada County Fire Safe Council's newsletter to educate the public on fire safe issues. The focus over the past years has been the safe use of mowers. There where 20 fire starts from equipment use last year, only four (4) where caused by mowers, a reduction from the past, so the message is working. In addition CDF contacted rental yards with prevention material and to ensure compliance with spark arrestor laws.

## **D. PRC 4291 inspection:**

The inspections serve a dual purpose, vegetation management and public education. Two seasonal fire prevention inspector, CDF engine companies, or a local government fire prevention officer within the battalion conducts the 4291 inspections. Last year there was 2,772 residents inspected in the battalion. The focus of the inspections is defensible space compliance and public education.

**2. Vegetation Management:** The vegetation management programs are directed at reducing the potential of a large fire and reducing the damage from a large fire. CDF-8,850 hrs. CDF/FEMA-1,800 hrs. NCFSC850 hrs.

## **A. PRC 4291 inspection:**

The goal this year is to continue using the seasonal fire prevention inspectors, CDF engine crews and Nevada County Consolidate F.P.D. personnel to inspect around residents for defensible space compliance.

#### **B. Hazard Reduction Programs:**

CDF has extended the defensible space, chipping program for a year. The funding for this program has been extended through December 31, 2005. Last year the program treated 340 parcels within the project area. The projection for this year is to treat around 350 to 400 parcels. This spring we will be starting work on the shaded fuel break portion of the project, the plan is to treat approximately sixteen (16) miles of road ways in the project area.

CDF continues to assist the Fire Safe Council with funding for their defensible space chipping. They treated 533 parcels last year and plan to do about the same number this year. The Fire Safe Council is currently working with the county to develop a permanent sight for vegetation chipping program. The sight will allow the public to drop off brush and chip it into biomass fuel.

CDF, USFS and BLM are working together to complete a shaded fuel break in the Harmony Ridge Scott's Flat area. Work should begin late spring and will tie in with a shaded fuel break that BLM completed a few years ago. This will provide a shaded fuel break along the ridge above the South Yuba River from North Bloomfield Rd. to Scott's Flat Cascade Shores subdivision.

A Schedule 'A' Fire Protection Planner works with developers and the Planning Department on land use and PRC 4290 issues, ensuring that adequate access/egress, fuel modification and other fire protection standards are met.

### ***Battalion 13*** **( Colfax & Alta Area)**

Battalion 13 has identified two of the largest causes of fires for the year 2004 as equipment use and debris burning. These two accounted for 58% of all starts. The following goals are outlined to help reduce the ignition sources through public education and fuel management.

#### **1. Fire Safe Programs** CDF-600hrs GCFSC-400hrs

Work with developers and the Planning Dept. via the CDF/Placer County Fire Protection Planner to ensure that PRC 4290 requirements are met or exceeded on all new construction. Participate in field inspections at BC and Company Officer level.

Chief Brand along with Colfax CDF personnel participate in the Ponderosa Fire Safe Council, meeting regularly and supporting any logistical and technical needs.

The Fire-Storm of Southern California still is a good wake up call; Chief Brand has been involved in multiple community meetings with regards to defensible space and fire safety. These programs will continue.

#### **2. Burn Permit Administration** CDF-500 hrs City of Colfax 100 hrs

Alta and Colfax Stations issue approx. 800-1000 permits each year. All employees cover the compliance issues with every permittee. This year Colfax CDF will be issuing permits with-in the city limits of Colfax. There will be open hours during the winter. Burn hours will be implemented around May 1 and total restriction will start around July 1 depending on weather. The Ban will be lifted as per CDF in the fall at the end of declared fire season.

LE-5 and Project permits on SRA will be issued with an inspection by an authorized employee of CDF.

**\* All permittees are given material covering air pollution rules and knowledge of our chipping program.**

### **3. Defensible Space** CDF-500 hrs, GCFSC-300 hrs

With-in Battalion 13 we are targeting high hazard high hazard areas beginning first with areas in and around the Colfax High & Elementary schools with the cooperation of the school officials.

Contract employees are currently conducting Public Resources Code 4291 inspections within the Battalion. Due to the revision of PRC 4291, Battalion personnel along with Chief Brand have been busy informing the public with regards to the revision.

We are in the process of using the CDF/Placer County Fire Hazard Mitigation (chipping) Program near the Colfax High School. This program is available to all residents requesting it.

There have been contract inspectors, who work the communities within the battalion for LE-38 inspections. This is just one of the ongoing PRC 4291 programs in the battalion.  
This program is funded by grant funds from Proposition 204. The stations will do any follow up inspections should they be needed.

The Ponderosa Fire Safe Council has been educating the public with meetings, coffee klatches and one on one contacts.

### **4. Railroad / Power Companies** CDF-50 hrs

CDF is in direct contact with Southern Pacific representatives on a regular basis. We are informed of any on-going maintenance and rail grindings on a monthly basis. Spot inspections are on-going and any problems are addressed accordingly.

Powerline inspections will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections as inspectors look up and down while conducting their inspection, and where the lines are available. Powerline caused fires, within the Battalion, relating to negligence are insignificant and do not warrant the resources to follow up.

### **5. Public Education** CDF-1000 hrs VIPs- 250 hrs GCFSC-400 hrs

CDF staff are involved in numerous public education programs. The area is a well-known recreation area. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs as follows:

CDF is involved with Fourth of July parades at both Colfax & Dutch Flat.

The local elementary schools are targeted for Smokey Bear programs.  
Recreational areas are frequently visited by CDF personnel, giving fire safe talks and handing out prevention material.

**6. On going events through out the year** CDF-450 hrs GCFSC-200hrs

This year Caltrans has agreed to increase their fuel modification program from the Auburn Battalion to the Alta Area along Interstate 80. The unit's prevention bureau and both the Auburn & Colfax Battalion Chiefs have met with Caltrans representatives regarding this program.

Local cable access runs a banner on defensible space and other PRC 4291 issues.

The CDF engine companies are up-dating pre-fire plans and conducting company inspections through-out the year.  
The local Battalion Chief works closely with the local Fire Safe Councils on various issues.  
Chief Brand is continuing to work closely with the media, regarding small engine, burning and fire safe issues.

**CONCLUSION**

While the Colfax/Alta Battalion is not highly populated, the day to day traffic flow from the major East/West Freeway (Interstate 80) continues to be a problem, due to the fires that originate from the freeway. This continues to be a challenge and public awareness seems to be the best approach. The burn ban has helped dramatically with the debris burning starts along with continued public education.

***Battalion 14***

***(Smartsville & Columbia Hill Area)***

Battalion Goal: Reduce the number of equipment and debris ignitions throughout the Smartsville Battalion through public education and vegetation management.

**1. Fire Safe Programs** 200 hrs CDF 20 hrs VIP

Work with developers and the Planning Dept to ensure that PRC 4290 requirements are met or exceeded on all new construction.

Act as the CDF Representative on the Nevada County Fire Safe Council.

Provide logistical support to the Fire Safe Council, through VIPs, to help them achieve the Council's goals.

**2. Burn Permit Administration** 250 hrs CDF



Cooperators consistent with past practice will issue LE-62's. Issuing points will be CDF Station # 40 and #42, the Penn Valley Fire District, and the North San Juan Fire District. The Penn Valley Fire Protection District will issue at Station #44 and at the administrative office for those areas within Penn Valley and Rough & Ready. The North San Juan Fire District will issue out of Station #3 on Tyler Foote Crossing Road. This process will ensure that homeowners can get a permit when the CDF station is not staffed. Burn hours will be determined by CDF outside the city limits and the individual cities within their boundaries. There will be open hours during the winter. Burn hours will be implemented around May 1 and total restriction will start around July 1 depending on weather. The Ban will be lifted as per CDF in the fall at the end of declared fire season.

An authorized employee of CDF or the USFS will issue LE-5 and Project permits on SRA.

### **3. Defensible Space 640 hrs CDF**

Section 4291 of the Public Resources Code will be addressed on SRA. A County funded inspector will be used to cover door to door in all areas of SRA within the county. High occurrence fire areas will be targeted.

The CDF stations and Battalion Chief will continue to support this activity with logistical support, inspections and citations, if needed.

### **4. Railroad / Power Companies 50 hrs CDF**

Past spot inspections indicate no violations; however fire occurrence has become significant.

Powerline inspections will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections as inspectors look up and down while conducting their inspection, and where the lines are available. The Prevention Bureau Chief will be meeting with Powerline Representatives to discuss PRC 4292. Powerline caused fires, within the Battalion, relating to negligence are insignificant and do not warrant the resources to follow up.

### **5. Public Education 200 hrs CDF**

CDF staff is involved in numerous public education programs. The area is a well-known recreation area. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs as follows:

School Programs - An interagency effort targets all schools in Penn Valley, reaching grades K - 12 in the spring.

Fourth of July Parade - CDF will have an engine and an antique engine in this year's parade.

Air Fest - A CDF engine will attend in July.

Fire Fighters Annual Picnic - A CDF engine and crew will attend this event.

Beale AFB Fire Prevention Week – CDF will provide an engine for the parade and static display for public education.

**6. On going events through out the year 200 Hrs CDF 20 Hrs VIP**

Lake Englebright Camp Ground - The Army Corp. of Engineers and CDF will construct fire lines around all shoreline campsites starting in May.

Malakoff State Park Camp Ground - A CDF engine will address campers during special events planned by the camp area.

Spenceville Rifle Range – A fuelbreak will be constructed around the rifle range during May, and the interior burnt.

Point Defiance/Rices Crossing Fire Access Roads – Maintenance of these roads will be done periodically to ensure fire access for equipment.

Channel 44 - The local message station will run the defensible space tape throughout the summer and event specific messages on request.

Fuel Break/Reduction - Fire crews will continue to support the communities of North San Juan, Nevada City, and Grass Valley in a comprehensive fuel reduction and fuel break program. The primary focus will be the Columbia Hill Fuelbreak and VMP burns.

**CONCLUSION**

Battalion 14 is quite busy with prevention activities. The strong relationship between CDF, Penn Valley Fire Protection District, Smartsville Fire District, North San Juan Fire District, USFS and other local FD's has provided for a professional and comprehensive program that has shown benefits in public awareness and concern. As shown in the fire cause analysis, wildland fires caused by children "playing with fire" and "smoking" have been negligible, indicating that the battalion's fire prevention efforts directed at school age children have been very successful.

***Battalion 15***  
***( Truckee & Donner Summit Area)***

Battalion Summary : The Town of Truckee was incorporated in 1994, taking with it 21,000 acres of SRA . This year a contract for suppression on 4,880 acres is currently active, and is anticipated to be so for the 2005 fire season. We will continue our high profile prevention program within the Town limits.

**FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

**Martis Peak Lookout Project**

Martis Peak was put into service as a detection platform on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, and was staffed daily through October 15<sup>th</sup>. Martis Peak reported 50 smokes in 2004, at distances of up to 35 miles. Martis Peak also recorded the locations of numerous lightning strikes, and was instrumental in tracking the progress of developing thunderstorms. . The operating agreement with the USFS will remain in place for 2005 with minor changes. We will continue to promote the lookout through the local media and community groups this spring to generate interest in volunteer staffing seven days per week. All volunteers will be signed up as Volunteers In Prevention (VIP). Northstar fire has funded a lookout position at Martis Peak since 2002, and

has expressed interest in funding a position for the 2005 fire season. This will be a four day per week position, so the remaining three days per week will require staffing by VIPs.

### **Fire Safe Programs**

Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code will continue in Sierra County. The "No Growth" position of Sierra County indicates no immediate change in the future. Growth continues in the eastern portions of Nevada and Placer Counties. This contributes to a significant workload.

### **Burn Permit Administration**

LE-62's will be issued by cooperators consistent with past practice, with the following exception. Donner Summit Fire will no longer issue LE-62 permits for FRA land in the Cedars area. Issuing points will be CDF Station 50, USFS at the Truckee Ranger District Headquarters, and Donner Summit FD. The Truckee Fire Protection District will issue at Station 91 and 92 for those within the Town limits and SRA within the district. This process will ensure absentee home owners can get a permit when the CDF station is not staffed. Burn hours will be determined after consideration for all fire entities on the eastside. There will be open hours during the winter. Controls will start about May 1 with daylight hours only, with total cancellation July 1. The Ban will be lifted as per CDF in the fall with burn hours during daylight, preferably in the morning.

LE-5 and Project permits on SRA will be issued with an inspection by an authorized employee of CDF or the USFS. Within the Town limits, the Truckee Fire Protection District will issue.

### **Defensible Space**

Section 4291 of the Public Resources Code will be addressed on SRA by Station 50 personnel. Assistance will be given to the Truckee Fire Protection District (TFPD), the North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFD), Meeks Bay FD, Alpine Meadows FD, and Squaw Valley FD to facilitate inspections on SRA within USFS Direct Protection. This will be done by supplying the Inter Agency Inspection Form LE38, prevention material, and personnel to assist in mass inspection programs.

Northstar FD has a comprehensive inspection program in Placer County within SRA that has achieved 100 percent compliance. The CDF engine and Battalion Chief will continue to support this activity with logistical support, inspections and citations, if needed.

### **Railroad / Power Companies**

Past spot inspections indicate no violations and fire occurrence is very low. Inspections of the Railroad will be handled by the USFS and findings will be turned over to the Battalion Chief.

Powerline inspections will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections as inspectors look up and down while conducting their inspection, and where the lines are available. The

Battalion Chief will be meeting with Power Company representatives to discuss PRC 4292. Powerline caused fires relating to negligence are insignificant and do not warrant the resources to follow up.

### **Public Education**

CDF staff are involved in numerous public education programs. The Truckee-Tahoe area is a world known resort area. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs as follows:

Kids Day - A booth with Smokey and prevention material relating to children will be at this year's event in May. This is an interagency effort involving most of the area fire departments.

School Programs - An interagency effort by CDF, TFPD, and the USFS, targets all schools in Truckee, reaching grades K - 5 in the spring. Students create fire safety posters for display on roadside fire prevention signs.

Fourth of July Parade - CDF will have an engine and an antique engine in this year's parade.

Truckee Rodeo - CDF engine and crew will hand out prevention material. Smokey will make an appearance.

Reno Rodeo - Assist Sierra Front with staffing a booth.

Fire Fest - A CDF engine will attend in October in South Lake Tahoe.

Donner Summit Fire Annual Picnic - A CDF engine and crew will attend this event.

### **ON GOING EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

Tahoe Re:Green - An on going process assisting allied agencies around the Lake Tahoe Basin. Projects include: fuel reduction on state owned and conservancy lands and PRC 4291 cooperative inspections.

Channel 6 - The local message station will run the defensible space tape throughout the summer and event specific messages on request.

Fuel Break/Reduction - Fire crews will continue to support the communities of Tahoe Donner and Northstar in a comprehensive fuel reduction and fuel break program.

Fire Guard - During 2004, the feasibility and practicality of a fire guard along the Westbound lanes of I-80 between Truckee and Donner Summit will be investigated with proposed start-up during the 2005 fire season. The lead agency will be the Tahoe Donner Homeowners Association, with crew support provided by CDF as needed.

### **CONCLUSION**

Battalion 15 is quite busy with prevention activities. The strong relationship between CDF, Truckee Fire, Northstar FD, USFS and other local FD's has provided for a professional and comprehensive program that has shown benefits in public awareness and concern. As shown in

the fire cause analysis, wildland fires caused by children “playing with fire” have been negligible, indicating that the battalion’s fire prevention efforts directed at school age children have been very successful.

### ***Battalion 16 ( Loma Rica & Dobbins Area)***

Battalion goal(s): Continue efforts to maintain the current low fire incident rate and reduce the potential for occurrence of large and damaging fires. These objectives will be realized through an intensive program of public education, fuel reduction and risk reduction.

1. **Fire Prevention and Awareness / Fire Safe Programs** 400 hours CDF 400 hours VIP An ongoing program, which furthers the public’s awareness of the wildland fire problem and develops public habits conducive to fire safety, will be provided. Annually the Battalion 6 staff will:
  - Work with Yuba County Planning Department to ensure that PRC 4290. Requirements are met or exceeded on all new development.
  - The Battalion Chief will participate as an acting member on the Yuba County Fire Safe Council. His role will be to provide professional guidance to the areas for Fuel Breaks, Community Water Systems, seeking grants to assist the community for the funding of fire Safe Projects.
  - During the months of May and June the Battalion Chief will release (4) four general fire prevention news releases to the Appeal Democrat and the Rabbit Creek Journal newspaper.
  - The Battalion Chief will be responsible the implementation of water storage program. The goal is to install 25 ten thousand gallon water tanks within the 5 foothill fire districts in Yuba County.
  - Coordinate with Loma Rica/Browns Valley CSD personnel and incorporate fire prevention and burning permit issuance program to the local responsibility areas of the fire district. A door-to-door program to promote the reflective house numbering program.
  - Cooperators Meetings - Meetings will be conducted with local cooperators covering fire prevention specific to their facilities or agency.

2. **Burn Permit Administration** 300 hours CDF 600 hours VIP

It must be recognized that every other year contact with the burning permit permittee provides CDF with the best opportunity to present a fire prevention message. This contact will not become an assembly line procedure, emphasis will be placed on the terms of the permit, and time will be taken to send a general fire prevention message.

- In March the Battalion Chief will update the Yuba County Burning Permit Issuance Plan in conjunction with the Feather River Air Quality Management District.
- In April the Battalion Chief will train the V.I.P.s in burning permit issuance and ensure that CDF employees have reviewed the plan.

3. **Defensible Space** 300 hours CDF

Station 60 and 61 during the first few weeks of fire season will conduct PRC 4291 inspections in predetermined areas. The inspections will focus on home safety and fire prevention, stressing safety while using power equipment and debris burning.

4. **Power Companies** 100 hours CDF

Past battalion history shows a very low fire occurrence due to power line violations. Each spring the Battalion Chief will spot check 1/3 of the power lines within the battalion, a map will be maintained to ensure that a different area is inspected each spring.

5. **Public Education** 300 hours 300 hours VIP

Public relations and interaction between CDF and the community is a key factor in promoting a public understanding of CDF's fire prevention role.

Station 60 and 61 along with the volunteers from the LR/BV C.S.D. will participate in local community activities:

- Wildhog Glory Daze – Local spring Fire Prevention Parade and booth, a community event that will have Smokey and fire prevention material scheduled for May.
- Brownsville Mtn. Fair – VIP and CDF will have an engine and crew staff a booth handing out fire prevention material - July
- Beale AFB fire Prevention Week – VIP and CDF will participate in parade and fire prevention booth. -November
- Bok Kai Parade – Marysville – March

Volunteers In Prevention (VIP) will conduct school programs each winter at the following schools: Yuba Feather, Dobbins, Loma Rica, and Browns Valley. Station 60 and 61 will provide assistance and an engine at each program

Station 60 and 61 will be expected to conduct fire prevention programs when requested by local groups, provided fire activity allows for the commitment. Whenever possible these requests can be deferred to the V.I.P. program.

6. **On going Fire Engineering programs through out the year** : 200 hours CDF  
1500 hours VIP Throughout the year the Battalion Chief will reduce the wildland fuel loading by reviewing all development projects within the SRA and require developers to instill fuel reduction practices.

This year there will be a strong effort to continue with Prop 204 Grant Projects.

- The Oregon Ridge Fuel Break
- The Brownsville area fuel modification project
- Yuba County Road fuel modification project. Washington Ridge Crews will continue to work with Yuba County Public Works assisting with a roadside vegetation maintenance program. The goal is to complete approximately 15 to 20 miles of roadway annually.
- CSA 2 emergency evacuation route development
- Richards VMP Project - The goal this year is to burn a minimum of 800 acres on the project.

- Oregon Peak Lookout – VIP will continue to staff the lookout through the summer months.
- Address Sign program – Station 61 will continue a year round coordination of the sales and installation of street and address signs and house numbers.
- Fire Prevention Signs – The battalion will maintain 6 fire prevention signs through-out the county. 2-signs at local little league fields and 4-roadside signs. These signs will have a fire prevention message plus announce burning restrictions.
- During fire season Station 60 and 61 will conduct their physical fitness training activities in a different location of their response areas on a daily basis. Every two weeks 1 engine from Station 60 will cover the Rackerby area.

#### CONCLUSION:

Public relations and interaction between CDF and the community is a key factor in promoting a public understanding of CDF's fire prevention role. Battalion 6 will continue to take a proactive stance with fire prevention efforts in the Yuba County foothills. With a continued increase in debris escapes the focus will be in educating the foothill citizens on proper burning techniques. There has been several control burn escapes during the winter months when permits are not required. The education process will educate landowners on the necessity of proper clearances and remaining on the premises in order to maintain control of their burning project.

### ***Battalion 17***

#### ***( Lincoln, Paige, Sheridan, Fowler & Thermolands Area)***

**Battalion Summary:** The Lincoln Battalion serves a large area of SRA and LRA. There are several areas that would be threatened by a significant wildland fire. Personnel will be actively inspecting property to assure compliance with PRC 4291 and to educate the public about the dangers of wildland fires and how they can assist us in reducing the threat that they pose.

#### **Fire Safe Programs**

The Placer County Fire Protection Planner will continue to provide building plan fire and life safety reviews for PRC 4290 and uniform fire code regulations.

#### **Burn Permit Administration**

Issuing points for Le 62's will be CDF/Placer County Fire Station 70. The local pollution control district determines burn hours. Pre-inspections will be provided on a requested or as needed basis. With each permit written, a Placer County Air Pollution Control District's Residential Open Burning informational sheet will be included. A copy of the permit will be filed at Station 70.

#### **Defensible Space**

The Battalion 7 goal will be to target areas within the foothills that have a significant wildland fire threat and inspect 400 homes using the PRC 4291 program. Station 70 and Station 77 personnel will concentrate on the Fowler-Fruitvale, Thermolands area of

Placer County. The homes within the following road boundaries will be inspected this coming spring; Andressen Road, Meadow Lark Lane, Rolling Hills, Karchner Road, Thousand Oaks Road, Dornes Road, Valley View Circle, Valley View Drive, McCourtney Road north of Thermolands, Garden Bar, Virginia town and Wise Roads. Campgrounds at Camp Far West Lake will be inspected prior to June 15<sup>th</sup> for compliance of related Forest and Fire Laws. A five-year cycle through the significant wildland fire threat area will provide adequate education and prevention information to the affected homeowners

### **Power line Inspections**

Inspection of power lines will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections. Staff will advise the battalion chief of a violation, the battalion chief will coordinate an inspection by the Units Fire Prevention Bureau.

### **Public Education**

- **School programs-** Station 70 staff along with the Lincoln group; provide fire safe presentations to schools within the battalion. Age specific fire prevention material will be handed out at each presentation.
- **Parades-** each year the City of Lincoln invites Station 70 to their annual parade. The engine company staff will display the engine so members of the public can inspect the engine and equipment staff will hand out fire prevention material and discuss fire prevention issues
- **Business fire safety programs-** Station 70 staff will provide instruction on the proper use of fire extinguishers to local businesses within the battalion.
- **Fire Prevention Signs-** Station 70 staff provide maintenance of several signs within the Battalion. Station 70 staff request 3 additional fire prevention signs that will be placed in targeted areas during the fire season.
- **Thunder Valley Casino-** Station 77 in cooperation with Thunder Valley Casino will provide fire prevention material and information to customers of the Casino during National Fire Prevention Week.

CONCLUSION Battalion 17 is quite busy with prevention activities. The strong relationship between CDF and Placer County Fire Department and the other local city FD's has provided for a professional and comprehensive program that has shown benefits in public awareness and concern.

## ***Battalion 19***

### ***(City of Marysville and CSA/Hallwood/District 10)***

Battalion 19 will work to reduce fire ignitions and reduce damage by fire occurrences by actively participating in public education programs, business inspections, and plan review process. These efforts will be provided to the City of Marysville, Hallwood/District 10 and to communities within the Yuba-Sutter area. The components to meet these goals are as follows:

1. **Commercial Business Inspection.** (166 hrs)
  - a. **Inspect** local business, and code enforcement.
2. **Fire Preplans.**
  - a. Update fire preplans for all business. (128 hrs)
3. **Plan Review**



- a. Conduct fire plan review on building projects within the city and district. (72 hrs)
4. **Public Education** (300 hrs)
  - a. Participate in public education programs within the City and Yuba-Sutter Area.
  - b. Marysville Joint Unified School District – Provide public education along with participation in School organized functions i.e., Read-a-Thon, Athletic events, High-School ROP program. Lunch visits, Fire Station tours, Fire department class visits, School Safe program planning.
  - c. Senior Safety-Provide fire safety training and public education to local senior care facilities.
  - d. City sponsored Activities- Christmas Parade, Fourth of July Parade, Gold Rush Days, Peach Festival, Hot Rod Jamboree, Marysville Rodeo, and the Yuba-Sutter Fair.
  - e. CERT Training- Assist Police department in Community Emergency Response Teams
  - f. Participate in Fire Prevention week with Fire Station Open House
  - g. Participation in local TV access channel presentation of fire safety programs for July 4<sup>th</sup> and Christmas.
  - h. Participation at Marysville Motocross, providing prevention and EMS standby duties.
5. **Campfire and Burn permit issuance** (60 hrs).
  - a. Issue campfire permits and provide local burn policy information.

CONCLUSION: The Marysville Battalion continues to interact with its community emphasizing fire safety. Marysville maintains a good cooperative relationship among its neighbors and collectively provides a strong fire safety message that benefits all. This message helps protect its citizens and the surrounding areas.

## 28. Completed Projects and Fire Plan Successes

Since the initial implementation of the Fire Plan process in NYP a number of projects have been completed to some degree. Through these projects CDF and its cooperators are able to demonstrate the success of the program. The following projects have been completed. There is a brief summary after each one that will identify if the initial goals were accomplished and what the Unit feels the results of each project will be.

The projects that have been completed prior to June of 2004 include:

Foresthill Fuel Breaks Ure Mountain Pre-Fire Project Gillis Ridge Fuel Break Meadow Vista/Applegate Fuel Breaks Forty-Niner Pre-Fire Project Cascade Shores Pre-Fire Project Columbia Hill Fuel Breaks Owl Creek Neighborhood Fuels Reduction Project Alta Sierra Fuels Reduction Program (Ongoing) **FORESTHILL FUEL BREAKS:** Existing roads were used for the location of the shaded fuel breaks taking advantage of the area occupied by the road surface, which is devoid of all vegetation. Modifying the fuels for a distance of 25 feet on both sides of the existing road gave an effective shaded fuel break width of approximately 70 to 80 feet.